

Glasgow Anarchist Group Official Preamble :-

FOR A SOCIALISM THAT LIBERATES!

We fight for anarchism, a social system based on freedom, mutual aid and social justice. We are against all forms of state, economic exploitation and social oppression. Social wealth and the means to create it must be owned and controlled by society otherwise freedom and equality will never be realised.

Real change can only come through direct action. We need to organise and act together. Solidarity is strength! By resistance in our communities and workplaces we can change the world.

A new world can only be created by working class people, by our own actions and organisations. It can never be done by a political party acting for us. It must be decentralised and managed from below, directly by and for everyone without bosses, politicians, leaders and other parasites.

The movement to create such a free society must reflect its principles of liberty, equality and federalism. We must build the ideas and structures of the new world today, in our struggles, not only in Scotland but across the globe.

Glasgow Anarchist Group is dedicated to this task. By our words and actions we try to spread the anarchist message and encourage the spirit of revolt.

Liberty, Equality, Solidarity!

Our address is :

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Draft Scottish Federation of Anarchists Statement :-

(a.k.a. "Aims and Principles" or PreRamble)

Anarchism comes from our needs and desires for freedom, equality and solidarity. It is the means by which the working class can win the class war.

Anarchists think that the problems that afflict humanity and the planet are caused by the present system and its inequalities. These ills, and the system which creates them, are not only harmful but unnecessary. Society can be organised in a better way, a way that meets the needs of all and the environment but gives privileges to none.

We want justice and equality to be achieved in all human relationships. Therefore we fight to abolish all institutions and relationships which create inequality and oppression, such as the state, bureaucracy, the wages system, capitalism, private property, sexism, racism and all forms of hierarchy.

Under capitalism, a minority owns and controls social wealth and the means to create it. This results in power and privilege for the few, poverty and injustice for the rest. State ownership (nationalisation) does not change this. Instead, we want society to own the means of life and for those who use them to run them to meet their needs and the needs of all, not for profit or to benefit a minority. This is workers control, the basis of real socialism.

Socialism can only be built and run from below, by and for everyone. No political party acting or seizing power on our behalf can do it for us. It can never come through Parliament or any other state. States are organised to defend privilege. Also, by their structure and workings, they create

a bureaucracy with its own interests, power and privileges. They can never be used to abolish inequality and injustice.

Anarchism does not place power into the hands of a new ruling elite. A truly revolutionary movement must prefigure the new society we hope for. Therefore, anarchism is based on free federations of autonomous groups, directly controlled from the bottom up by their members. These federations only coordinate the decisions made at the base. Hence self-management replaces government. This decentralisation ensures that we take control of our own fates, without leaders and led. Socialism without this can only lead to slavery.

We reject the dead end of electioneering. We must instead organise and fight where we have real power, in our workplaces and communities. From there we can impose by direct action that which politicians can never realise in Parliament or the City Chambers. Only this can create the spirit of revolt needed to resist oppression and get improvements in the here and now, as well as creating a new world.

This new world is not for the distant future. It exists now, in our hearts. By organising federally, using direct action and showing solidarity we create the ideas and structures of this new world within the present one. Only this will allow us to organise as a class and takeover our workplaces and communities, so winning the class war. Without this takeover we will struggle within capitalism but never replace it and the state.

We are not only fighting for a free Scotland, but a free world. All working class people across the globe face similar problems caused by the same system. Capitalism is organised internationally, so must we to fight it effectively.

Solidarity is Strength!

Aims and Principles

Our organisation in theory and practice promotes the destruction of all means of exploitation and oppression. The capitalist mode of production is based on the exploitation of the working class.

The state machine protects this mode of production. The working class can therefore not utilise the state machine as a means of emancipation.

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We therefore advocate organisation of the workers as a class at the point of production to replace trade and general workers unions which are obsolete industrially and insulated from democratic control due to their centralised nature.

We also advocate community organisation to replace the centralised town councils.

Here we would have an industrial organ dovetailing with the commune for the purpose of defence, offence and administration.

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The basis of our organisation is opposed to all centralised institutions and tendencies. We are therefore opposed to all political parties.

We advocate organisation termed federalism, decentralisation as opposed to centralism. Federalism means organisation from the bottom upwards. It means organisation with an autonomous base: Each factory, workshop, yard, mine, depot, etc elects its own committees which are subject to instant recall. Each place of work deals with its own affairs.

Committees are federated to other local committees when co-ordination is essential as in a strike situation. Local feds link with regional feds and in turn regional feds are linked with national feds, forming an international confederation of labour.

The same principle pertains in the commune regarding social affairs.

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Our methods of struggle are direct action in the individual and social plane. A few examples being civil disobedience, lightning strikes, work to rule, stay in strike, sabotage, culminating in the social general strike which would be the prelude to the social revolution, the revolution of reconstruction.

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Reconstruction means the abolition of wage slavery. Production for profit replaced by production for use. Division of labour replaced by integration of labour.

Services rendered to the community individually and collectively cannot be precisely measured. We therefore negate political economy. Economics should be a physiology of society; the study of the ever growing, developing, diversified needs of the individual and society. Needs should govern production.

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War is the health of the state and capitalism. We are therefore anti-militarists and reject frontiers. The world should be our country.

The following is a translation from the "Enraged Seagull" a French anti-capitalist journal. It is a statement of their principles. If you wish to contact them, write to:
Caribou/La Mouette
B.P.21
62222 St. Martin Boulogne
France

They say that they are willing to offer one page in their mag to individuals, groups and associations who want to present their point of view on the subject of their choice. Read the principles and if you can write in French, why not get to your pens!

Who Are We?

We define ourselves as libertarians because:

We reject all economic systems, all political institutions state or private which are founded on the exploitation of man by man, on authority and hierarchy.

We struggle at the same time against all forms of State Capitalism which conceal themselves or are concealed under the names, Marxism-Leninism, Bolshevism, Stalinism etc. and against liberal capitalism with its attendant waste and (effrene'e, don't know that word MB) consumption. They strike us as being two sides of the same coin.

We see all over a world of social inequality, the rule of profit which is leading more and more to a society which is out of balance, polluted, inhuman and directly responsible for racism, passive idiocy, political and financial corruption.

We are for the self-organization of the workers, the inhabitants, the consumers in forms of their own choosing which are not just reproductions of the mafias of the Right, of the Left or the bureaucratic unions, the defects of which we denounce in the strongest terms.

We are for a Direct Democracy which corresponds to the real needs of individuals regardless of sex, race or nationality and certainly not the profits of merchants, public figures, bureaucrats or the famous. We're not appealing to anyone to blindly "follow" us without question. We desire to work with anyone and everyone who wish to radically change society by seizing their destiny in their own hands.

Finally, the Seagull consistently refuses all contributions having racist or discriminatory character, meddling in the private lives of people (except in the context of their political or social functions) also all propaganda with electoral goals and all forms of commercial advertisement.